

REPORT

OF

SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., January 1, 1895.

*To the Hons. Nicholas R. Ruckle, Chairman,
John B. Conner and John F. White,
Board of Public Safety:*

GENILEMEN—I have the honor to submit for your consideration the fourth annual report of the Police Department, being for the year ending December 31, 1894, together with some suggestions as to the needs of the Department.

When I was called to take charge of this department a little more than a year ago the policy of the administration had been clearly outlined and defined by the Honorable Mayor and your Honorable Board in regard to the strict enforcement of all laws, and measures were immediately adopted and steps taken to faithfully carry out the policy announced. How well we have succeeded is apparent from the fact that this city is and has been for months free from the open and notorious disregard of the will of the people as expressed in the law, which has heretofore caused our people to cry out for very shame.

Houses of prostitution have been regulated, places used for assignation purposes have been closed, and the professional gambler, who lives upon his ill-gotten gains, debauches the youth and causes the ruin of men, has been taught that he can not ply his vocation in this city, and gambler and gambling furniture have been removed to towns and cities more congenial.

The battle against violations of the liquor law has been a constant and relentless one, and will be continued. In the effort made it has been clearly demonstrated that law can be enforced if the law be capable of enforcement. It has also been shown that there are weaknesses in our statutes on the liquor traffic, and burdens placed upon officers of the law in endeavoring to enforce the same, which should be removed and thus make its enforcement surer and less expensive.

The total number of arrests made during the year, as specified in tabulated report herewith, is 6,614, being nearly 2,000 more arrests than were made in the preceding year, and the amount of stolen property recovered during the year is \$16,520.25, which facts, I think, clearly disprove the accusation made by some of our citizens that this department was "doing nothing but watching saloons."

All classes of criminals have been made to feel that this city is on the alert for their detection and certain punishment, and as a result the absence of crime has been a source of gratifying comment. I believe that all our citizens recognize the fact that never in the history of our city were the laws so well observed as now.

SMALL-POX QUARANTINE.

On the night of April 12, 1894, a tramp was given shelter over night, as had been customary for years, and on the following morning it was discovered that he was sick with small-pox. Consequently the station house, with all persons therein who had been exposed to the dread disease was quarantined from April 13 to 29 by order of the City Board of Health. At the end of the time mentioned the building was thoroughly disinfected, painted and repapered. I ordered that thereafter no tramps or persons other than prisoners should be sheltered in the station house, and since that time the city has not given tramps or unfortunates shelter over night. A room separate from the station could be provided from which there would be no danger in the event of some one entering with a contagious disease, and as it could be built for about \$500, in my opinion it should be, for many worthy appeals are made by persons, not tramps, but who are without money or friends and who

would willingly change their condition had they the opportunity. During the period of quarantine referred to the business of the department was conducted in the basement of the Court House, and through the courtesy of the Board of County Commissioners and the then Sheriff, Mr. Robert F. Emmett, all prisoners were cared for at the county jail.

THE A. R. U. STRIKE.

On the evening of July 1, 1894, the great strike of railway employes which spread all over the nation reached this city, and steps were immediately taken by this department, with the advice and aid of His Honor, the Mayor, and all members of your Honorable Board for the protection of property and the preservation of the peace of the city. Forty-four special officers were sworn into service on the 2d and remained on duty during the strike. A room was rented near the station house and cots provided, barracks established and all members of the department required to sleep therein, and were only permitted to go to their homes for meals. The Captains and Superintendent were quartered in the station house, and were continuously on duty day and night. To the wise counsel of His Honor, Mayor C. S. Denny, and of the members of your Honorable Board, the invaluable assistance of United States Marshal W. H. Hawkins and his deputies, the expressed willingness of His Excellency, Governor Matthews, to render aid when needed, the fidelity and faithfulness of every officer and patrolman of the police force, and the good sense of the railway employes and toiling masses, are the citizens of our law-abiding capital indebted for the unparalleled record made during the greatest of all labor strikes. Thus was this city, a great railroad center, enabled to pass through the trying ordeal so memorable to all without the loss of life or destruction of property.

PATROL SERVICE.

The patrol service consists of two covered patrol wagons, one built in July last and the other rebuilt in August, and five (5) horses, all in good condition. The number of trips made and miles traveled, as shown in the tabulated report herewith,

will indicate the amount of heavy work required of this service, made necessary from the fact that all runs must be made from police headquarters. The report referred to shows the number of miles traveled to be 7,519 6-10, and this has been accomplished with the horses and wagons above referred to, there being but one wagon and team on duty during the day, and the same number on duty during the night service.

HEALTH.

The health of the force has been good, and while some of the members have lost a little time on account of slight ailments, only a few have been confined to their homes for any length of time by reason of disease or serious affliction. Great credit is due to the prompt and effective attention given members of the department by our police surgeon, Dr. Geo. D. Kahlo, and his predecessor, Dr. S. E. Earp. I am especially pleased to state that during the entire year the hand of death has not been laid on any of our members.

POLICE MATRON.

I have pleasure in presenting for your information the report of Police Matron Annie Buchanan. No one connected with the department is more painstaking and devotedly attentive in the performance of duty than she. She is constantly on duty, and uncomplainingly rises at all hours of the night to answer calls made on her for the attention and comfort of women committed to her care. No matter how low or degraded the unfortunate woman sent in, or what her condition of mind or body, Mrs. Buchanan is ever ready with hand and heart to minister as well as she can to her wants. I sincerely hope you may see your way clear to appoint for her an assistant, as provided for in the annual appropriation, that she may be relieved of the necessity of being on duty day and night, and thus prevent that impairment of health certain to follow the course of duty now incumbent upon her.

STATION HOUSE.

In my last report I alluded to the urgent necessity of a new building which would be adequate for present and future purposes, and had hoped ere this that the city authorities would

have taken steps in this direction. The need of new and modern headquarters is apparent to all. The real estate adjoining that now occupied by the station house should be condemned, this building torn down and a suitable structure erected over the whole plat from alley to alley, which could be used for a city hall, and which would accommodate the needs of this department for headquarters and in which the police court could be held. Thus would be spared the humiliating spectacle witnessed every morning (except Sunday) of trailing prisoners, old and young, male and female, through the streets in the gaze of passers by and the curious crowds which invariably gather on the corners and streets along which the prisoners are compelled to travel publicly en route to the courthouse for trial or arraignment. It would be a waste of money to remodel or try to improve the building now occupied.

SUB-STATIONS.

The time has come when the business and service of the police force can not be conducted with the highest degree of efficiency from one central station house. The city has grown to such proportions and covers so much territory that to more properly patrol it and save the waste of time now expended in going to and from the station and to more quickly answer the calls of the public, at least two sub-station houses should be built. One should be located on the north side and the other on the south side. The city could then be divided into three precincts, to which the officers could report and from which answers could be made to calls for the patrol wagon. Much time is now lost by patrolmen having persons under arrest having to await the arrival of the wagon, because, perhaps, at the time needed by one it is out on the opposite side of the city answering the call of another officer. To answer calls from the extreme northern limits of the city the one team and wagon on duty at any time must travel 124 blocks in making the trip; to answer like call from the southern limit it must travel 106 blocks; to the western limits and return 62 blocks, and to the eastern limits the team must travel 50 blocks in making the round trip. Thus, it will be seen that delays and loss of valuable time must occur. If two sub-stations were provided, each given a wagon and horses, the time lost and

consequent interruption with the duties of the officers and the wear and tear on horses and equipments, as now in use, would be saved and the efficiency of the service greatly increased.

DISCIPLINE.

It has been my earnest desire to see the members of this department brought to a high standard in the matter of discipline and a strict compliance with the rules and regulations has been required and insisted on with firmness and impartiality. A few have seen fit to disregard instructions and disobey well-known rules, and such have been relieved from duty and reported to your honorable Board, where such action has been taken as the circumstances in each case demanded. Some cases have been reported to me by subordinate officers, which I have deemed unnecessary to trouble you with, and such have been brought before the Superintendent, and reprimanded and given to understand that a repetition of the offense would be reported to the Board for consideration. The discipline of the department has been excellent considering the many kinds of men and their varied dispositions, and all clearly understand that tenure of office depends solely on efficiency and a strict compliance with the rules and regulations of the Department of Public Safety.

MOUNTED POLICE.

I beg to call your attention to the necessity of a mounted police patrol. In 1893 my predecessor and the Board of Public Safety recognized this necessity and asked the City Council for an appropriation therefor, and evidently said Council intended to pass said appropriation, but by an oversight failed so to do. In the last annual report of your honorable Board such need was recognized, but another year has passed and we are still without mounted police, a much-needed facility for effective police work. I earnestly hope that some way may be provided to properly mount twelve officers. The utility of mounted officers is no longer a matter of experiment, but is recognized in all leading cities, and Indianapolis should not be behind her sister cities in the use of the best known methods for the performance of police service.

TELEPHONE BOXES.

We have but twelve telephone boxes and one telephone for the use of citizens, all of which must accommodate the uses of the entire department and public. The present number of boxes and system in use were put in many years ago, when the metropolitan police department was organized, and has not been increased or changed since, although the city is much larger than it then was. In my opinion the enlargement or change of the telephone system can not be longer delayed, and I respectfully recommend that at least 100 additional telephones or patrol boxes of some kind be provided. As it now is officers have to travel long distances to reach the boxes (there being less than two to a police district) with a prisoner to call the patrol wagon or make their reports. Besides when endeavoring to call the station house from grocery stores, drug stores, mills, factories, offices, etc., which have telephones, long delays occur before the station can be had, because the whole department, as well as the public, uses the one 'phone. In a city so large as this, this condition ought not to continue longer, and a system as good as that in use anywhere should be provided so that best of results may be had. An examination of the police reports of all the leading cities of the country discloses the fact that in this service Indianapolis is far behind them all.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, I desire to state that the work of the department has been quite satisfactory, considering the extensive territory it is expected to care for, and officers and patrolmen have been untiring in their efforts in looking after the welfare of the city, and I feel it a pleasurable duty to give them full credit for the work they have done.

I desire to express my thanks to Honorable C. S. Denny, Mayor, for the interest he has taken in the efforts put forth by the department which I have the honor to represent and his willingness to aid me in all times of need. I also desire most earnestly to thank your honorable Board for the readiness with which my suggestions from time to time have been considered and the uniform kindness and courtesy with which

I have been treated. To your accommodating clerk, Mr. R. C. Herrick, I am indebted for innumerable courtesies shown during the year, and for assistance in the successful work of the year I am indebted to the efforts of Captain Timothy Splann, Chief of Detectives, and Captains Robert Campbell and Jas. F. Quigley; and to my competent and faithful clerk, Mr. E. F. Harris. Relying with full confidence in all subordinates, I enter the new year believing that success will crown an honest effort to do the right.

I am very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. W. POWELL,

Superintendent of Police.

List of Arrests Made by Officers of the Police Force for 1894.

OFFENSE.	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Drunks	101	95	94	108	147	78	117	134	98	76	138	131	1,317
Drunks and other charges	50	26	47	50	45	38	45	51	58	38	45	58	551
Liquor laws, offenses against.	17	9	21	25	25	22	23	10	9	19	15	13	208
Disturbing the peace	2	2	7	3	4	3	11	8	9	6	8	4	66
Vagrants	34	28	106	52	44	60	64	77	60	45	32	17	619
Loitering	43	35	45	28	26	41	56	47	54	24	15	30	444
Prostitutes	15	6	15	19	23	25	26	34	19	12	6	20	211
Prostitutes, associating with.	16	14	27	39	12	23	29	23	30	17	6	19	246
Keeping house of prostitution.	3	3	4	3	3	6	5	8	6	4	2	5	52
Adultery	2	4	8	4	2	4	4	2	4	4	3	3	37
Public indecency.	2	4	6	1	1	8	3	3	4	3	2	2	31
Fornication.	2	2	6	1	2	4	5	2	2	3	2	4	29
Rape	2	2	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	3	3	17
Grand larceny	21	10	12	8	16	4	10	19	15	17	7	9	148
Petit larceny	41	23	25	15	30	21	27	39	22	25	23	21	312
Burglary	12	1	19	13	19	3	5	7	3	14	3	11	110
Highway robbery.			3	4	4			1	3	1	2		14
Receiving stolen goods.	2	2	4	2	1	1		1	1				15
Obtaining money under false pretense.		1	1			2	1	1	1				7
Known thief	1	2			1			10	6		2	3	25
Gambling.	15	19	10	10	30	11	7	2	20	7	3	5	139
Keeping gambling house.	3	2	3	1	6		1		5			1	22
Assault and battery	56	53	84	69	71	88	79	99	87	42	48	34	810
Assault and battery with intent to kill.	3	2	5	8	4	8	9	8	4	2	4	4	61
Assault and battery on wife	5	2	6	4	10	6	7	5		5	3		53
Assault and battery with intent to rape		1		1	3	1							6
Assault			1										1
Murder	1				1	2	2	2					8
Carrying concealed weapons.	3	3	4	2		1	4	11	8	10	4	5	57
Drawing deadly weapons.	4	6	8	3	5	4	2	4	5	7	1	3	52
Cruelty to animals	6	1	1	1	3		3	10	5	2	2	5	39
Fugitives	7	4	4	11	3	5	1	6	7	6	8	4	63
Insane	3	7	13	6	3	12	6	5	5	3	4	8	75
Obstructing streets and alleys.				6	6		1	1	1	5		4	18
Interfering with an officer.	1	5	6	1	1	3	2	4	4	1	3	1	32
Resisting an officer.	1			1	1	1	1		1	1		1	7
Dog laws	1			1		2	52	4					61
Peddling without license	1	1	20	4	4	6	3	1	2	5	12	2	61
Malicious trespass	9	4	3	6	9	4	10	5	2	5	4	7	68